sfaa NEWSLETTER January 24, 1957

## REPORT ON THE DECEMBER MEETING OF THE ARTISTS' COUNCIL

Karl Kasten, Clayton Pinkerton and Everett Turner were elected to the Council to fill vacancies caused by the resignations of Ralph Putzker, Wally Hedrick and Fenton Kastner. The new members will serve the remainder of the term, these positions again being open for the regular June elections.

The main business of this meeting was a discussion of the prize and jury systems for the Annual Oil and Sculpture exhibit. Past and current criticisms indicated that much might be gained from revision. The prize system has been criticised on the following counts: 1-that the small size of the prizes kept many artists, particularly those from other parts of the nation, from submitting their work; 2-that small cash prizes do not materially increase the sales prices of the paintings for which they are awarded, nor add to the professional stature of the artist; 3-that such prizes in no way insure that the particular paintings will become a part of the permanent heritage of creative art to be exhibited in the future.

A new system was agreed upon as follows: the total prize money ($1700) will be put into one fund. All prizes will be in the form of purchases to be paid out of this fund. The purchases will be incorporated in the permanent collection of the San Francisco Museum. The awarding of purchase prizes will be entirely at the discretion of the elected jury.

The advantages of this system are judged to be: prize-winning work will be incorporated into a permanent museum collection where it can be exhibited in the future; the artist's reputation will receive greater enhancement and permanence through such action; the size of the prizes will be set by the exhibiting artists who will be more likely to set realistic prices, rather than inflated "museum" prices, upon their works.

No recommendations for revision of the jury system appeared workable at this time. It is felt that the change in the award system should engender a more careful and thoughtful selection of nominations for the jury. Also the jury monitor, as provided in the current procedure, will, in a sense, become a critical custodian of the Association's funds; that is, the monitor will have some responsibility in seeing that the SFAA gets "value received" for its money.

## CSFA SUMMER AND 1957-1958 CATALOGUES

Despite the increased size of printings, the supply of CSFA catalogues has had a habit of becoming exhausted, leaving the school will only mimeographed substitutes for answering inquiries of prospective students. For this reason, catalogues will not be sent automatically to all SFAA members, but will be sent only upon request. The Summer Session catalogue should be back from the printer early in February, the 1957-58 Catalogue sometime in April.

## ATTENDANCE FIGURES OF THE DE YOUNG SHOW

The De Young Museum reported that the attendance at the SFAA open show for members was 55,836. This the museum considered a very good figure for a winter month.

## SFAA GALLERY

For the month beginning January 28 the Gallery will have an exhibit of work by the faculty and staff of the CSFA. This will be followed by the fourth of this season's one-man shows, an exhibition of paintings by HASSEL SMITH, which will open Friday evening, March 8.

## ACTIVITIES AND NEWS OF THE SFAA MEMBERS

JEAN HALPERT RYDEN was the winner of the Society of Motion Picture Art Directors' $150 purchase award in the annual national exhibit of the California Watercolor Society which opened October 30 in Los Angeles County Museum. This show is currently being exhibited at the Oakland Art Museum (until Feb. 3).

Artist member JOHN SACCARO has a painting in the 25th Biennial of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., which opened Jan. 12. The Corcoran's current show celebrates its 50th year as one of America's most prestigious art shows. It is divided into three sections: Invited, Selected by Jury, and Selected from the Corcoran Gallery. Mr. Saccaro's painting was selected by jury. He was likewise represented in the 1955 show when only 64 out of a submitted 2,011 paintings were accepted by the jury headed by Andrew C. Ritchie. Mr. Saccaro's painting in that exhibit was also selected for a national tour by the A.F.A.

Artist member WILLIAM FAULKNER exhibited oils and drawings at the San Marco Gallery of Dominican College, San Rafael from December 15 to January 15.

DORR BOTHWELL made the happy discovery that at least two of her drawings are owned by the Fogg Art Museum and one of her serigraphs by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, N.Y. when she was informed that these three pieces are being included in a collection of 150 items entitled "Twentieth Century Graphic Arts" which is being sent to various European cities under the sponsorship of the United States Information Agency. The exhibit is intended "to present to the European audience a fair picture of recent trends and the variety of techniques which have been developed in the United States," and was organized in response to the widespread interest abroad in contemporary American graphic arts. Dorr is also currently exhibiting oils (to February 18) at the Meltzer Gallery, 38 West 57th, N. Y. together with Alva, Louis Bunce, Rhys Caparn, Rolf Nesch and Jankel Adler.

ELLA ALLUISI exhibited paintings and sculpture at the Lucien Labaudt Art Gallery October 30 to November 23.

GAIL COLE organized an "Art in Action" section for the Nov. 30 annual fair of the First Unitarian Church. The following artists presented a spirited exhibition: Vera Allison (jewelry design): RUTH CRAVATH (sculpture); BETHEL DE BOIE (painting); Barbara Brooks (ceramics); George Gaethke (drawing); Edith Hamlin (mosaic); Marion Kronfeld (serigraphs); ETHEL PEARCE NERGER (painting); Ruby O'Burke (clay modelling); Helen Peeke (ceramics); Edward Ryden (sculpture); Werner Philipp (painting); James Southard (monotypes); Marjorie Washburn (watercolors). The exhibit was responsible for a record-breaking attendance and sales of over $200 of small art and craft works.

KEITH MONROE and WALTER KUHLMAN were recently awarded $10,000 fellowships by the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in Fine Arts in Chicago. Both of these artists left early in January for Chicago where they will attend a 6-week seminar conducted by the Foundation. Kuhlman will then return to the West Coast, while Monroe will go on to Spain where he intends to stay for some time. Mr. Monroe's place on the CSFA faculty as a teacher of metal sculpture is being taken by EVERETT TURNER.

JEAN VARDA will take a leave of absence from the CSFA beginning in February. He too plans to go to Spain. The City of Paris is exhibiting Mr. Varda's work during the month of February. Next fall, either during October or November, he will have an exhibition at the Beaux Arts Gallery in London, England. BRUCE MC GAW will take over Mr. Varda's classes at the school.

WILLIAM BROWN is resigning from the CSFA faculty because of the pressure of other work.

## CSFA NEWS

The CSFA Social Hall currently has an exhibit of paintings and drawings by night school students. The quality of work is excellent. We hope that you will recommend it to beginning and "some time" artists who may not be aware of the opportunities afforded by the CSFA evening classes.

A section of the "Design in Scandinavia" exhibit (S.F. Museum) is on view at the CSFA. This is a selection of textiles, metal ware, ceramics, enamels and glassware.

CSFA scored notably in a recent nation-wide Polaroid photographic contest sponsored by the magazine "Modern Photography." Four of the ten prizes went to CSFA students: Charles Ginnever won both the second and sixth prizes; Sandra Carlson took 4th place; and Philip D. Greene took 10th place.

Pirkel Jones, head of photography at CSFA, is currently exhibiting prints at the California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park. The show will continue through February 10 and is open from 10 to 5 daily.

Drawings by Ernie Palomino, a last year's graduate, were shown during December at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor.

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